(c) and (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has also suggested declaration of Godavari and Krishna rivers and Kakinada, Eluru, Commamur and Buckingham Canals as National Waterways.

Demand by Distributors of LPG Cylinders for Fair Commission

*226. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM :
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the distributors of LPG Cylinders have been demanding a fair commission for the delivery of cylinders to the consumers :

(b) whether the LPG dealers have also threatened to stop home delivery of cylinders in case their demand for increase in the commission is not met;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (d) A section of LPG distributors under the name "All India LPG Distributors' Federation" have given a notice demanding an increase in the Distributors' Commission, faling which they would resort to closing the distribution from December 22 to 24. 1992 and thereafter stop home-delivery of cylinders w.e.f. December 25, 1992. Their demands were discussed in the Ministry in a meeting with them, and are under consideration of Government.

Maintenance of Roads in Madhya Pradesh

*227. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the roads including National Highways in Madhya Pradesh have become unserviceable after the rains due to big pot-holes and damaged conditions;

(b) if so, what remedial measures Government have taken so far in this regard;

(c) whether Government have provided any special funds for the repair of roads to the Madhya Pradesh Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when Government propose to release such funds for maintenance of roads in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) Constitutionally, the Government of India are responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways only and other roads are essentially the responsibility of respective State Governments. Maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process and they are being kept generally in traffic worthy condition by taking up repair works from time to time within the funds available. So far, during this year an amount of Rs. 864.17 lakhs has been released for maintenance of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh including such special repairs as have been necessitated by the floods.

Supply of Spares to Railways

*228. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM :
SHRI VISHNU KANT SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the press report published in the Indian Express of 2nd September, 1992 under the caption 'Squeezing the railways on spares';

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto and whether it is a fact that M/s. A.B.B. have considerably increased the price of their spares; and

(c) whether Government have since postponed the award of locomotive contract to M/s. A.B.B. ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIFF) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report contains certain inaccuracies.

As regards increasing the price of 26 items of Unit Exchange spares, M/s. A.B.B. have not increased the price of these spares after third rebid in June, 1991. In fact, A.B.B. reduced the price of spares by 11% during negotiations held in November, 1991.

(c) The letter of acceptance was issued to M/s. A.B.B. on 18-3-92. The award of detailed contract was pended in view of advice received from RCC to pend further action till they submit the report to the Parliament. RCC's report on the subject has since been received. Further action in respect of this contract is under consideration of the Government.

One Family—One Child Norm

*229. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to adopt one family—one child norm in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR) : (a) to (c) It is not considered feasible to adopt 'one family—one child norm' in the country given the present levels of total fertility rate of 3.9(1989) and infant mortality rate of 80 per 1000 live births (SRS : 1990).

Canadian help for Improvement of National Highways

*230. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJI RAO SHINDE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to avail of the services of Canadian Government for improvement of the highways in selected States and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the criteria applied for selecting such States;

(c) whether Government propose to include National Highway No. 8, No. 3 and No. 4, being the main highways used for transportation to the interior of the country from Bombay port under the programme, and if so, the details therof; and

(d) if the above highways have not been selected under the above programme, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) At present there is no proposal for Canadian financial assistance for improvement of highways in the country.

Action Plan for Critically Polluted Areas in the Country

*231. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have prepared Action Plan for critically polluted areas in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such areas identified in general and in Maharashtra State in particular;

(c) the details of the schemes proposed to be implemented and the pattern of financing and the central fund allocated to the States. State-wise, during the current year and provision made for implementation of the scheme during 8th Plan; and

(d) whether Government are aware of the serious threat of pollution posed by a number of chemical and drug units in Patalganga-Thane-Belapur Road in Maharashtra alongwith the details of the defaulting units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board in consultation with the State Pollution Control Boards, based on the pollution load, have identified nineteen areas in the country, including the Chembur areas, as critically polluted areas. These critically polluted areas have been surveyed to assess the pollution problems and action plans to prevent further deterioration of